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SIPDIS

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TAGS: <u>EAID ECON EFIN EIVN PGOV PREL IZ</u>
SUBJECT: BULGARIAN PARTICIPATION AT ICI MINISTERIAL

REF: STATE 43799

We delivered reftel demarche to Bulgaria's Ambassador to Iraq Valeri Ratchev (resident in Sofia) on May 9. Ratchev said Foreign Minister Kalfin would be unable to attend because of an earlier commitment. Deputy Foreign Minister Churov will lead a delegation of 3-4. Ratchev said Bulgaria was not planning to provide assistance on a bilateral basis but would join multilateral efforts, including through the EU and other European organizations. Beyrle